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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTION COPY

INFO

INFO : AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES, AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
DEPT PASS

FROM : AMEMBASSY CARACAS DATE:

SUBJECT : ARGENTINE EMBASSY CIRCULAR DIPLOMATIC NOTE CASTIGATES TIMERMAN

REF :

A recent Argentine Embassy circular note to Embassies here castigates Jacobo Timerman, drawing heavily on the June 30th remarks of Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion. The note paints Timerman as a dealer in lies and innuendo who has pushed his campaign to impugn the international reputation of the government and the people of Argentina to "intolerable limits."

The note also attacks former Assistant Secretary of State Pat Derian, calling her allegations of a GOA threat to take reprisals against the Jewish community of Buenos Aires if Israel turned down a GOA bid to purchase Israeli weapons a "gross and grotesque calumny." The former Assistant Secretary is "professionally dedicated" to this type of activity, according to the circular.

Concluding that the anti-Argentina forces will not forego attempts to sully the reputation of the GOA, Camilion promises stiff resistance against those who would defame Argentina's image.

COMMENT: While the circular note suggests that the Argentines take the Timerman affair very seriously indeed, it appears that few of the other missions here give it much weight. A cursory check among our contacts revealed that they could not remember having received or having read the circular.

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Cosquillas al decano

Después de 86 años de reinado ca absoluto sobre los lectores de Mendoz los recientes esfuerzos del diario *Lo Andes* para modificar su tradicional cor concepcion grafica son el mas agud indicio del inminente *boom* periodistic que parece a punto de precipitarse sobr Cuyo Todos los intentos anteriores par erosionar su poder –*La Libertad*, qu desaparecio junto con su musa inspir dora, la Revolucion Libertadora, y mas reciente *Tiempo de Cuyo*– pasaro por una efimera gloria y el previsibl ocaso

Despues que la poderosa empresa in mobiliaria Kolton S A compro la rot tiva del difunto *Tiempo Los Andes* s apresuro a ocupar el mercado vespertin que aquel habia dejado vacante con un nueva criatura, *El Andino* el cual pesar de la alta presion con que fu lanzado y de los reiterados apoyos f nancieros dispensados por la empresa d los Calle, no ha conseguido una pene tracion masiva en el publico, quiz porque en definitiva, se lo consider una simple prolongacion mimetizada de veterano diario de la mañana

En realidad lo que *Los Andes* logr al crear este nuevo frente fue engendra sus propios enemigos copadas las pos bilidades de la tarde, la competencia s ha volcado decididamente hacia la ma ñana Desde el miercoles 19 los can llitas vocean *Mendoza* el nuevo matu tino escrupulosamente impreso en offse y dirigido por Francisco Montes (h) co una redaccion acaudillada por Luis Mor taldi y Luis Mas (veteranos profesionale de *Panorama Clarin BP Color* de Mon tevideo)

Pero las expectativas mas empec nadas se centran ahora sobre el matu tino que bajo la directa supervision d Alberto Kolton cabeza de un fuert grupo de inversionistas– prepara J

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cobo Tummerman (inventor de *Primera Plana y Confirmado*), cuyos allegados se encargan de propalar reiterativamente su hipotetico sueldo mensual un millon de pesos, y el de su lugarteniente, Luis Gonzalez O'Donell (*Primera Plana, Usted, Adan, La Prensa*), tasado en el equivalente de 1 000 dolares

Mientras febriles huestes de obreros de la inmobiliaria Kolton S A revitalizan el antiguo edificio de *El Tiempo* inversiones que algunas estimaciones fijan en 300 millones de pesos, y escarceos para contratar incluso a periodistas de *Los Andes* establecen la agresiva pauta fijada para el nuevo producto "el mejor diario de America"

Sin embargo, los fieles lectores de *Los Andes*, aunque manifiestan que la competencia ofrecera, indudablemente la alternativa de una informacion "elegida y no restringida", también confían en la solidez del diario fundado por Adolfo Calle, y en sus reiterados triunfos sobre todo intento hecho hasta hoy para desplazarlo de su colocacion en primera linea ♦

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WASHINGTON: Nuevo Impulso Cobrará la Negociación Económica con EE. UU.

WASHINGTON, 29 (Enviado especial) — Voceros oficiales confirmaron en esta capital que, a mas tardar, dentro de los próximos diez dias llegará a Estados Unidos el señor Rogelio Frigerio ex secretario de la Presidencia para mantener conversaciones en el más alto nivel sobre las relaciones económicas entre este pais y la Argentina

Es evidente ahora que los trabajos realizados por los señores Rogelio A Galarce, Roberto Risso Patron y Gerardo Mendoza constituían solo los preparativos de esta visita Por otra parte, voceros norteamericanos indicaron claramente que los actuales objetivos argentinos no podrian ser alcanzados en el nivel de estos funcionarios, y trascendio, asimismo, que el gobierno del presidente Frondizi desea introducir nuevas modalidades respecto de la Argentina, tanto en los tonos de colaboracion del Eximbank como de la International Cooperation Administration, el Fondo Monetario Internacional, la ley 480 de colocacion de excedentes agricolas norteamericanos y en las condiciones en que en estos momentos, se desenvuelven las relaciones comerciales entre los dos paises.

En cuanto al acuerdo que seguramente se elaborará sobre adquisicion argentina de excedentes se tiene entendido que el trigo no está incluido por ahora Con la segura llegada del señor Frigerio esta "operacion argentina" tal como fue calificada en Buenos Aires por el embajador Beaulac, y en la cual participo tambien el embajador argentino, doctor Cesar Barros Hurtado aparentemente entra en su fase decisiva, rodeada de un optimismo mayor que el que existia en las dos ultimas semanas, desde el arribo del doctor Galarce

La noticia de la llegada del señor Frigerio, confirmada en fuentes oficiales, determino que cuatro universidades invitaran al colaborador del presidente Frondizi a pronunciar conferencias en sus claustros Se trata de las universidades de Georgetown, Harvard, Stanford y Columbia, interesadas en conocer los puntos esenciales del programa de expansión economica de la Argentina

La disertación en Harvard será pronunciada ante el claustro de profesores de economia y de estudiantes en la materia Hasta ahora tanto en los medios de la embajada argentina, como en los del Departamento de Estado nada se informó sobre el caracter de la representación con que llegara el señor Frigerio, si bien se lo considera desde ya, como enviado del presidente Frondizi

Por lo menos aquí no llama la atencion el hecho de que el señor Frigerio no actue en esos momentos con titulo oficial ya que existen suficientes antecedentes similares, y se compara al inminente visitante con el papel que jugaron en su momento, Harry Hopkins junto a Roosevelt, y el general Lucius Clay junto a Eisenhower Pero si bien se mantienen en reserva los preparativos que realizan el Departamento de Estado y la embajada argentina ante la llegada del señor Frigerio, no existe el mismo silencio en los circulos financieros e industriales privados Desde ya, la fabrica de aviones Cessna ha concluido un proyecto para la instalación de una fabrica de estos aparatos en la Argentina Piensa someter este proyecto al señor Frigerio y enviar uno de sus directores a ese pais simultaneamente con el regreso de aquel a la capital argentina Algo similar ocurre con una importante empresa constructora de caminos y obras publicas, una firma de astilleros y una de las mas grandes de este pais en la produccion de alimentos envasados

Pero estos hechos son solo el anticipo de proyectos más vastos en terreno privado El caso es que dustriales y financieros de divers sectores han propuesto realizar con señor Frigerio lo que han califica de 'reunion en el valle' por oposici al concepto de "reunión en la cim Entienden que despues del positi viaje del presidente Frondizi ha l gado el momento de llevar much iniciativas —dado el extraordinar clima favorable logrado por el prim mandatario— al terreno de los h chos concretos

Esta reunion que se realizaria Nueva York, con participantes de versas ciudades, marcaria el comie zo de una vasta y organica interve cion de la iniciativa privada nort americana en el plan de expansi economica argentina De todos mod dirigentes industriales de Chica San Francisco y Houston sosten que, al margen de esta reunión, el s ñor Frigerio debe viajar a estas c dades, donde existen verdaderas m sas de capital en disponibilidad pa ser invertidas en el exterior

Los organizadores de la reunion Nueva York no tienen ambage afirmar que las perspectivas financ ras en el sector privado para la A gentina son mayores que en el sect publico y, por ello, desearian aprov char al maximo la presencia del s ñor Frigerio Sin embargo, es posib que éste intente obtener alguna g rantia de parte del gobierno nort americano para las inversiones est dounidenses en la Argentina, que complementaria con las que ya ofr ce la Argentina con su ley de inve siones

Para participar en los preparativ de las negociaciones que se realizara con la presencia del señor Frigeri llegara mañana a esta capital el s ñor Albion Patterson director del pr grama del punto cuarto en la Arge tina

JACOBO TIMERMAN
Adscripto a la agencia de Clarín en Nueva York

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AGENCIA DE COMUNICACION INTERNACIONAL DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DATE:

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FROM: IO - Larry Estes

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Timerman's Charges Anger Jews

Despite Troubles, Buenos Aires Sees No Serious Anti-Semitism

By Cynthia Gorney
Washington Post Foreign Service

BUENOS AIRES — "*This* he wants," cried Nissim Elnecave, and flung a newspaper onto his desk.

The large headline read: "JACOBO TIMERMAN, SUPERSTAR."

"He has insulted the community. He said they are *Judenrats*. You know what a *Judenrat* is? *Judenrat* is the worst insult you can say to a Jewish leader."

Elnecave's voice was rising. "When the Nazis entered a city like Warsaw, they took the head of the community. They said to him, 'You are responsible to us. You are no more the head of the Jewish community. You are a Nazi commissioner. Tomorrow you must give us a list of 100 Jews to take to Auschwitz.' *Judenrat* is a Nazi agent within the community. It is the worst thing you can call a Jew."

In an old stone apartment building, where a third-floor flat houses the Jewish magazine Elnecave's father founded 51 years ago, Nissim Elnecave's beard quivered in his fury. On this Saturday Elnecave was breaking the Jewish Sabbath to pound his fist against the desk at the mention of the exile Jacobo Timerman.

"He is now engaged in a worldwide campaign against Argentine Jews," he said. "He is the first anti-Semite. Because to denigrate a big, flourishing, important Jewish community like this is worse than desecrating a cemetery. Because a cemetery you can restore. With honor it is not so easy."

JACOBO TIMERMAN
... small group campaigns to discredit him.

"They sit me down, clothed, and tie my arm around me. The application of electric shocks be gins, penetrating ***my clothing*** *to the skin. It's ex tremely painful,* ***but not*** *as bad as when I'm stretched out naked* ***or*** *doused with water. Th sensation of the shocks on my head makes m jump in my seat and moan.*

"No questions are asked. There is merely a tor rage of insults, which increase in intensity as th minutes pass. Suddenly, a hysterical voice begin shouting a single word: 'Jew! Jew! Jew!' Others joi in and form a chorus while clapping their hand ... Now they're really amused, and burst int laughter....

See ARGENTINA, A5, Col. 1

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Timerman's Charges of Wide Anti-Semitism Anger Argentine Jews

ARGENTINA, From A1

"I keep bouncing in the chair and moaning as the electric shocks penetrate my clothes During one of these tremors, I fall to the ground, dragging the chair They get angry, like children whose game has been interrupted, and again start insulting me The hysterical voice rises above all the others 'Jew! Jew!'"

ooo

These paragraphs are a passage from Timerman's "Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number," the slim memoir of his arrest, torture, trial and expulsion from Argentina. The book has caused a stir in the United States. To journalists, book reviewers, national politicians and television audiences, Timerman has described today's Argentina as a place where government-sanctioned fascists work unimaginable violence, their presence evident to anyone with the stomach to look and listen.

He has described it as a place where Jews have withdrawn, to quote his book, into "silent complicity . . . the voluptuous sensation of security, the wonderful biological sensation of knowing beyond a doubt that you're alive." This complicity, Timerman writes, has begun to obsess him. "I would forget my torturers, I told myself, but never the Jewish leaders who acquiesced calmly in the torturing of Jews."

Consciously, from the refuge of his new home in Tel Aviv, Timerman has raised the specter of Nazi Germany as he writes about Argentina. It is a comparison that deeply disturbs many Jewish leaders in Buenos Aires, which has a Jewish population of 250,000, one of the largest outside Israel.

Anti-Semites have struck out at Jews in Argentina for the last 150 years. To this day, many Buenos Aires newsstands display copies of the wildly anti-Semitic tract, "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," and the ultranationalistic anti-Semitic magazine Cabildo hangs on the same rack with Time and Newsweek. But drawing parallels to Germany in 1938, Jewish leaders here say, is a sensationalistic distortion of a community whose synagogues, sports clubs, kosher butchers, newspapers and history are a vibrant part of contemporary life in Argentina.

"The anti-Semitism of this country is not recent, I think," said David Fleischer, president of the cultural and sports center called the Hebraica to establish guilt without spreading it all over the world."

"The individual who puts a bomb in the synagogue, who writes, 'Kill a Jew,' who tries to split us up after years of living well together — this is an anti-Semite, and there are many of them," said an older Jewish scholar whose parents immigrated at the turn of the century to the populous Jewish agricultural colonies northwest of Buenos Aires. "But the country is not anti-Semitic . . . The Argentine bomb exploded at a seminary during the high holidays, and in 1980 bombs exploded or were deactivated in a Jewish technical school, a temple, and a primary school.

Last October someone rampaged through a Jewish cemetery, vandalizing tombstones No one was hurt in any of the attacks.

There are assaults of a different nature, too. The man on the subway, muttering, "Can't stand this car, it's full of dirty Jews," while a young Jewment-owned television, asked a prominent Jewish businessman "Why is it that Jews are such misers?" "Are you a Jew or an Argentine?" "Why is it that for the past 4,000 years practically everyone has hated the Jews?"

Argentina's president, by constitutional mandate, must be Roman Catholic Jews do not make it into the high ranks of the military and rarely achieve positions of political power No one, in recent memory, has ever been arrested for an attack on a Jewish institution.

In the last two months, Buenos Aires newspapers carried two small items that sickened Jews who happened to see them. One was a paid notice of a mass to be said for Adolf Hitler The other was a paid memorial notice that read, "Karl A. Eichmann (Ricky) (R I P) died tragically on June 1, 1962 . . . To their teacher, with love, from his students" The notice was an obvious reference to Adolph Karl Eichmann, the former Gestapo chief of Jewish affairs accused of organizing the deportation and death of millions of Jews during World War II Eichmann was captured by Israelis in Argentina, where he lived under the alias Ricardo Clement. Agents smuggled him to Israel, where he was tried and hanged a few minutes before midnight May 31, 1962.

But those notices caused an outcry when they appeared The newspaper Convocion, which is linked to the Argentine Navy, ran an enlarged reprint of the Eichmann notice with an angry editorial strongly condemning anti-Semitism The television interview was widely attacked by Jews and gentiles alike The presidential law, as the Jewish scholar pointed out, is not aimed directly at Jews "A Protestant can't be president either Neither can an Arab."

Professionally and culturally, Jews have integrated with considerable success into most of Argentine life, and social acceptance is so commonplace that many Argentine rabbis worry more about intermarriage and assimilation than about anti-Semitism.

It is this double-edged reality that defines daily life for the Argentine Jew — set apart by religion and culture from a society that still harbors hints of medieval Christian anti-Semitism, that has opened its borders both to Jews fleeing the pogroms and to fascists who call for the extermination of Jews to bow before pictures of Hitler and Mussolini.

It is difficult to find anyone in the Jewish community here who will publicly either affirm or deny that, except to insist that the community has pressed for the resolution of disappearances it can prove. In that sense they are no different from most other Argentines.

In a country where 6,000 disappearances have been documented by human rights workers, there are certain subjects that almost no one is willing to talk about freely.

"It's the grand terror," said a Buenos Aires human rights worker. "But it wasn't just in the Jewish community It was in the English community, the French community, the Italian community as well. There wasn't a single community it didn't touch."

The Past: Life With Gauchos

BUENOS AIRES — Gauchos, the legendary Argentine horsemen who lived by their knives and their wits on the open plains called the Pampa, learned Yiddish Maximo Yagupsky, a 75-year-old Argentine Jewish journalist who grew up in an immigrant colony on the Pampa, told an interviewer some years ago about the gaucho Manuel del Poso, who used to listen every Friday as Yagupsky's father said the Sabbath blessing.

One Friday, as Yagupsky told it, his father was away and the family had to tell del Poso that the blessing would not be said. "Give me a cup of wine," said del Poso "We gave him a cup," said Yagupsky, "and he said the entire Sabbath blessing in Hebrew from memory And when he left, he told us *'gut shabes'* " — "good Sabbath" in Yiddish.

For 300 years, according to Judith Laikin Elkin's "Jews of the Latin American Republics," people of Jewish descent had filtered into the colonies of South America — many of them newly converted Catholics who were known as "*conversos*" and lived with stigma that rose and fell with the times.

But the Jews who came to Argentina, in by far the largest Jewish immigration to Latin America, did not arrive en masse until the turn of the century, when ocean ships began carrying them to the wild, raw land of the Pampa A Jewish philanthropist was responsible for much of the colonization — he had a vision of Jews founding rich agricultural settlements.

"It was the gaucho," Elkin writes, "who taught Jewish immigrants how to ride, how to herd cattle, how to shelter against the elements, how to shoot. In the end, the gaucho taught the colonist his own primitive methods of agriculture — a rude twist to the Argentine hopes that European immigrants would educate the gaucho to more advanced techniques."

In the end most of the colonists migrated to the cities, escaping bad crop years and seeking education There are still heavily Jewish settlements in the provinces northwest of Buenos Aires, but most of the country's Jews live in the capital.

In their neighborhoods the faces you pass are not the sleek-haired Italians who seem to fill so much of Buenos Aires. These are Eastern European faces — Polish, Bulgarian, Russian So many of their parents and grandparents immigrated from Russia that the nasty Argentine slang for "Jew" is "russo." The city has 40 Jewish primary schools, 10 Jewish high schools, a Yiddish daily paper, a Jewish weekly paper, 55 synagogues and a rabbinical seminary run by Marshall Meyer, an American rabbi who has lived in Buenos Aires for 22 years.

If you had dropped by Temple Bet El on a recent Friday night, you would have heard his congregation singing, and in front a dark-haired young man lifting his voice to lead the welcoming-in of the Sabbath.

— *Cynthia Gorney*

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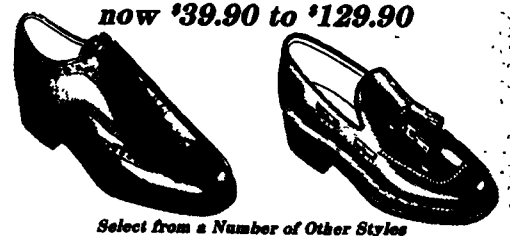

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"I keep bouncing in the chair and moaning as the electric shocks penetrate my clothes During one of these tremors, I fall to the ground, dragging the chair They get angry, like children whose game has been interrupted, and again start insulting me. The hysterical voice rises above all the others· 'Jew! Jew!' "

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"The anti-Semitism of this country is not recent, I think," said David Fleischer, president of the cultural and sports center called the Hebraica Society "It belongs to a heritage that goes way back, not just in Argentina It has spread through Eastern and Western countries You can't excuse it in Argentina any more than you can in the rest of the world I don't want to excuse anybody, but I don't want to establish guilt without spreading it all over the world"

"The individual who puts a bomb in the synagogue, who writes, 'Kill a Jew,' who tries to split us up after years of living well together — this is an anti-Semite, and there are many of them," said an older Jewish scholar whose parents immigrated at the turn of the century to the populous Jewish agricultural colonies northwest of Buenos Aires. "But the country is not anti-Semitic . The Argentine Catholic, despite his Catholicism, despite his ancestral anti-Semitism, despite the pressures from certain anti-Semitic forces — the basic Argentine is not anti-Semitic"

There have been bombs in synagogues here — in October 1979 a bomb exploded at a seminary during the high holidays, and in 1980 bombs exploded or were deactivated in a Jewish technical school, a temple, and a primary school

Last October someone rampaged through a Jewish cemetery, vandalizing tombstones No one was hurt in any of the attacks

There are assaults of a different nature, too The man on the subway, muttering, "Can't stand this car, it's full of dirty Jews," while a young Jewish man flinched nearby The psychologist who was dismissed from her clinic by an administrator who listed all the reasons and then added, "and also, your name is very Jewish ' The television interview program late last year, in which the host, on government-owned television, asked a prominent Jewish businessman "Why is it that Jews are such misers?" "Are you a Jew or an Argentine?" "Why is it that for the past 4,000 years practically everyone has hated the Jews?"

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"There are realities that are rules of the game," said Mario Gorenstein, a civil attorney who heads the Argentine Delegation of Israelite Associations "When my father got here as an immigrant, he learned right away that his son was never going to be able to be president. We're a minority in a Catholic society"

Were they silent before the torturing of a fellow Jew? "In no way is it true," Fleischer said. "The community mobilized itself constantly, through meetings with authorities, looking for some kind of interaction, meeting with ecclesiastical authorities to reach an understanding. One of the things that made it possible for Timerman to leave the country was the efforts of the Jewish community"

Timerman has denied that, and he has accused Argentina's Jews of a silence that went far beyond his own case He and other Argentines who have emerged from the country's prisons have said there are Nazis in the security forces who paint swastikas on prison walls, taunt their prisoners with anti-Semitic epithets and force them to bow before pictures of Hitler and Mussolini

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BUENOS AIRES — Gauchos, the legendary Argentine horsemen who lived by their knives and their wits on the open plains called the Pampa, learned Yiddish. Maximo Yagupsky, a 75-year-old Argentine Jewish journalist who grew up in an immigrant colony on the Pampa, told an interviewer some years ago about the gaucho Manuel del Poso, who used to listen every Friday as Yagupsky's father said the Sabbath blessing

One Friday, as Yagupsky told it, his father was away and the family had to tell del Poso that the blessing would not be said. "Give me a cup of wine," said del Poso "We gave him a cup," said Yagupsky, "and he said the entire Sabbath blessing in Hebrew from memory. And when he left, he told us *'gut shabes'* " — "good Sabbath" in Yiddish.

For 300 years, according to Judith Laikin Elkin's "Jews of the Latin American Republics," people of Jewish descent had filtered into the colonies of South America — many of them newly converted Catholics who were known as "*conversos*" and lived with stigma that rose and fell with the times

But the Jews who came to Argentina, in by far the largest Jewish immigration to Latin America, did not arrive en masse until the turn of the century, when ocean ships began carrying them to the wild, raw land of the Pampa A Jewish philanthropist was responsible for much of the colonization — he had a vision of Jews founding rich agricultural settlements

"It was the gaucho," Elkin writes, "who taught Jewish immigrants how to ride, how to herd cattle, how to shelter against the elements, how to shoot. In the end, the gaucho taught the colonist his own primitive methods of agriculture — a rude twist to the Argentine hopes that European immigrants would educate the gaucho to more advanced techniques."

In the end most of the colonists migrated to the cities, escaping bad crop years and seeking education There are still heavily Jewish settlements in the provinces northwest of Buenos Aires, but most of the country's Jews live in the capital

In their neighborhoods the faces you pass are not the sleek-haired Italians who seem to fill so much of Buenos Aires. These are Eastern European faces — Polish, Bulgarian, Russian. So many of their parents and grandparents immigrated from Russia that the nasty Argentine slang for "Jew" is "russo." The city has 40 Jewish primary schools, 10 Jewish high schools, a Yiddish daily paper, a Jewish weekly paper, 55 synagogues and a rabbinical seminary run by Marshall Meyer, an American rabbi who has lived in Buenos Aires for 22 years

If you had dropped by Temple Bet El on a recent Friday night, you would have heard his congregation singing, and in front a dark-haired young man lifting his voice to lead the welcoming-in of the Sabbath.

— *Cynthia Gorney*

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